

# Community Briefing

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## Words from Chief Hall

Welcome to the Community Briefing. The culture of any organization, particularly a police department, greatly influences the manner in which it carries out its tasks and responsibilities. The Westminster Police Department is fortunate to have a culture hallmarked by its ethics, compassion and commitment to public service. This culture was set in place nearly 50 years ago and continues today. As we approach our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a department this year, we wish to acknowledge and thank former and retired members of the Westminster Police Department who established the organizational culture we have maintained and been proud of for half a century.

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## In Memory of Sergeant Marcus Frank



*Sergeant Marcus Frank*

Sergeant Marcus Frank lost his battle with an extended illness on October 10, 2007. Sgt. Frank's dedication to the City of Westminster and his vast knowledge in the area of Asian Organized Crime will truly be missed. Marcus is survived by his wife, Marilyn, and his adult sons Eric, Bryan, and Andrew.

Sgt. Marcus Frank was hired by the Westminster Police Department in February 1979. During his 27 year career Marcus spent over 19 years dedicated to fighting crime, particularly in regard to the vulnerable refugee population in Westminster's Little Saigon area during some of the most important years of its establishment. Sgt. Frank was the first investigator in Orange County assigned exclusively to the investigation of Asian criminal activities and investigated over 2000 Asian gang crimes. He was the case agent of several intellectual property counterfeit cases known to be the largest cases of their type in the United States.

He testified on Asian criminal enterprises for the California Governor's Commission on crime; and he testified on Asian criminal enterprises for the California Senate Sub-Committee on drug trafficking.

In 1998, Sgt. Frank received the prestigious Frederick Milton Award by the National Gang Crime Research Center for his efforts in gang research and education on Asian gangs. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Asian Gang Investigator of the Year award from the International Association of Asian Crime Investigators.

Sgt. Frank provided training in the area of Asian criminal enterprises to law enforcement officers and prosecuting attorneys in 21 states across the country and four provinces in Canada. Because of his substantial achievements, the Federal State Department invited Sgt. Frank to be the first local law enforcement officer to visit and lecture government officials in the country of Vietnam concerning crimes involving trademark infringement.

Through Sgt. Frank's tremendous efforts in the area of Asian gangs and organized crime investigations, he brought accolades to both himself and the Westminster Police Department from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and throughout the world.

Marcus retired from WPD in December 2006, but due to his love of policing, continued working as a reserve officer in the Crimes Against Public unit and most recently helped establish the newly formed Special Investigations Unit. In 2007, Marcus received the Bronze Medal of Merit and the Westminster Chamber of Commerce Public Service Award for his many career achievements.



## Welcome Back



Jerad Kent – Parking Control Officer

In October 2007, Jerad Kent returned from United States Marine Corps Basic Training. He also completed School of Infantry and Military Police Training. Jerad was released from active duty and placed on reserve status. In the mean time, he has been hired as a Parking Control Officer with future plans to become a Police Officer for Westminster PD. Please welcome Jerad back to our family. (Prior to joining the USMC, Jerad worked as an Intern for the WPD Traffic Division.)

## New Faces



Jennifer Takayama – Records Specialist

Jennifer Takayama is 23 years old and recently completed her Bachelor's degree from California State University Long Beach. Takayama grew up in the Huntington Beach/Westminster area and lives with her parents in Huntington Beach. She began at WPD as a Volunteer where she gained valuable experience and built her reputation as a hard-working, dedicated employee. Takayama was hired in October 2007 and she is very excited about her new career in Law Enforcement.

## OCTOBER OFFICER OF THE MONTH:

### Officer Carlos Bustos

On 10/07/07 Officer Bustos was summoned by the Orange County DEA's office to conduct an investigation involving a vehicle carrying a large amount of money linked to a drug transaction. Officer Bustos responded to the area where undercover officers were following the suspect vehicle.

Officer Bustos found probable cause to stop the vehicle and **located \$60,000 in cash**. He questioned the driver and was able to solicit an incriminating statement which supported the DEA's primary investigation at the same time protecting the identity of the DEA investigation. The money was seized and another drug dealer linked to a large criminal investigation was taken off the street.

**Great Job!**

## Police Academy Graduation



Graduation ceremony of Police Officer Peter

On November 16, 2007, another group of community oriented leaders graduated from the Golden West College Police Academy. The ceremony was held at the Rose Center. The Westminster Police Department Honor Guard, members of area law enforcement, family and friends of the graduates attended the ceremony.

**WE CONGRATULATE THE GRADUATES  
OF THIS CLASS AND WISH THEM  
SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE!**



## GEORGE-A-PALOOZA



On November 20, 2007, members of the Westminister Police Department decided to throw a birthday bash for George Najjar. The purpose of the party was not only to celebrate his birthday but to offer our gratitude for all that George does around WPD.

The Westminister Police Officer Association generously contributed funds toward the cost of the event.

**GEORGE WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO! YOUR POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND DEDICATION TO THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER IS VALUED.**



*Left to Right: Helen Paris, Mayor Rice, Lieutenant Baker, Sergeant Nye, George Najjar, Mrs. Najjar.*

## New Faces at WPD

On November 20, 2007, the Westminister Police Department family proudly welcomed Officer Peter Krause. Peter was raised in Westminister and graduated from Westminister High School. Prior to becoming a Police Officer at WPD Peter was a Parking Control Officer for WPD. Officer Krause was sworn in by Chief Hall in front of family and friends.



Officer Peter Krause with Chief Hall



Mayor Rice, Officer Krause, Council Member Fry and Council Member Ta

The WPD family continues to grow. On December 3, 2007, Police Chaplain Vincent Pham and Records Specialist Maria Victoria Wong were sworn in by Chief Hall.



Vincent Pham – Police Chaplain

Vincent was born and raised in Vietnam. He left Vietnam in 1975 and lived in several countries before moving to California. Vincent is currently a Pastor, Teacher and Counselor at Newlife Christian Fellowship Church, 7111 Trask Avenue in Westminister.



Maria Victoria Wong – Records Specialist

Maria Victoria Wong (Marivic) was born and raised in the Philippines. Marivic has a BA in Business Administration and speaks Tagalog. Marivic and her husband, Albert, live in Bellflower. Marivic joins WPD after working for Cypress Police Department for the past 2+ years.



Jamie Freeman - Intern

Jamie comes from a law enforcement family; her father is a Sergeant for HBPD and she is the younger sister of Julie Freeman, who works in FSU.

## Shop with a Cop

On Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, the Westminister Police Officers Association participated in the fourth annual Shop with a Cop program. Over forty underprivileged children met officers at the Westminister WalMart and were given a \$100 gift card to go on a shopping spree. In addition to their own gifts, each child's parent(s) received a \$50 grocery card. The event was co-sponsored by WalMart and the Fountain Valley Police Officers Association.





